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Bhakoot Dosha in Kundali Matching and When it Cancels

By Arpita Nath · Yogas, Doshas & Matching · 2026-09-23

In Vedic Astrology (Jyotish), Bhakoot Koota is the second most heavily weighted test in the classical 36-point Ashtakoota system used for marriage compatibility (Kundli Milan). Carrying 7 full points - second only to Nadi (8 points) - Bhakoot assesses the mutual psychological flow, emotional resonance, financial health and life longevity of the couple.

Bhakoot is calculated by observing the relative distance between the Moon signs (Janma Rashis) of the two partners. When these signs fall into specific frictional geometric patterns, the score drops to 0 out of 7, producing the classical blemish known as Bhakoot Dosha.

1. The Three Types of Bhakoot Dosha

Bhakoot Dosha manifests when the two Moon signs sit in one of three uncomfortable house relationships from one another:

Shadashtak (6/8 Relationship — The Worst Combination):

• **Geometry**: One partner's Moon sign is the 6th house from the other's, while the other is the 8th from the first.

• **Significance**: The 6th house represents disputes, health vulnerabilities and litigation, while the 8th house represents sudden crises and longevity.

• **Manifestation**: Triggers chronic misunderstandings, emotional clashes, health complications and in severe unmitigated cases, legal friction or threats to marital stability.

Dvidvadasha (2/12 Relationship):

• **Geometry**: One partner's Moon sign is in the 2nd house from the other's, while the other is in the 12th house from the first.

• **Significance**: The 2nd house governs family assets and speech, while the 12th house represents expenditure, debt and physical distance.

• **Manifestation**: Financial strain, excessive joint spending, difficulties in asset accumulation or periods of prolonged physical separation due to career or life obligations.

Navapanchama (9/5 Relationship):

• **Geometry**: One partner's Moon sign is in the 5th house from the other's, while the other is in the 9th from the first.
• **Significance**: While 5 and 9 are natural dharmic trines (Trikonas), when counting from Moon to Moon in classical compatibility, certain pairs create friction over family expansion, children or philosophical dogmas.
• **Manifestation**: Delays or stress regarding children and progeny, ideological rigidity or friction with in-laws and mentors.

2. The Exception Within Shadashtak: Friendly vs. Unfriendly Pairs

Not all 6/8 placements are equally destructive. Classical texts divide Shadashtak into two distinct categories:

Mrityu Shadashtak (Inauspicious / Lethal 6/8):
• Planetary rulers of the Moon signs are natural enemies.
• **Pairs include**: Aries & Scorpio (same ruler Mars, but sign elements clash), Taurus & Libra (same ruler Venus, but earthy vs. airy), Gemini & Scorpio, Cancer & Sagittarius, Leo & Capricorn, Virgo & Aquarius, Libra & Pisces.
• Carries genuine relational friction and health or emotional strain.

Priti Shadashtak (Auspicious / Affectionate 6/8):
• Occurs when the Moon sign rulers are natural mutual friends or share the same planet.
• **Pairs include**: Aries & Virgo (neutral), Taurus & Sagittarius, Gemini & Capricorn, Cancer & Aquarius, Leo & Pisces.
• Mutual planetary goodwill softens the technical 6/8 distance, allowing the couple to resolve disputes with empathy.

3. Classical Cancellations of Bhakoot Dosha (Bhakoot Dosha Bhanga)

Classical authorities - including the Muhurtha Chintamani and Brihat Parashara Hora Shastra - state that Bhakoot Dosha is frequently neutralized by compensating chart alignments:

Same Moon Sign Ruler (Eka Adhipati):
• If both Moon signs are ruled by the same planetary lord, the dosha is dissolved.
• **Examples**: Aries & Scorpio (both ruled by Mars), Taurus & Libra (both ruled by Venus), Gemini & Virgo (both ruled by Mercury), Sagittarius & Pisces (both ruled by Jupiter), Capricorn & Aquarius (both ruled by Saturn).

Planetary Friendship of Moon Sign Lords (Rashi Maitri):

• If the lords of both Moon signs are mutual natural friends (such as Sun, Moon, Mars, and Jupiter among the Dev group or Mercury, Venus and Saturn among the opposing group), the 0-point score is mitigated by emotional and social affinity.

Same Nakshatra, Different Signs (Eka Nakshatra):

• When both partners share the same birth star that bridges two different signs (e.g., Krittika between Aries and Taurus or Chitra between Virgo and Libra), the shared stellar energy cancels the sign-level friction.

Pure Nadi Koota (8/8 Points):

• If the couple has complete compatibility in Nadi Koota (no Nadi Dosha), the 8 points gained often balance the loss of Bhakoot's 7 points, provided the overall score remains comfortably above 18 points.

Favorable Navamsha (D9) Alignments:

• If the D9 Ascendants and D9 Moon signs of the partners are mutually supportive or aspected by an unafflicted Jupiter, subconscious friction indicated in D1 is resolved in the deeper layers of married life.

4. Practical Perspective on Bhakoot Dosha

• A standalone Bhakoot Dosha does not cause divorce on its own; it primarily highlights the areas where the couple must exercise conscious adjustment (finances for 2/12, emotional ego for 6/8, and parenting/philosophy for 9/5).

• When evaluating compatibility, verify whether a classical cancellation applies before delivering a verdict. If a cancellation is present and total points exceed 20 to 24, Bhakoot Dosha is generally treated as manageable.

Find your Bhakoot Dosha here.

Astrology is offered for guidance only. For important life decisions, please consult a qualified professional.